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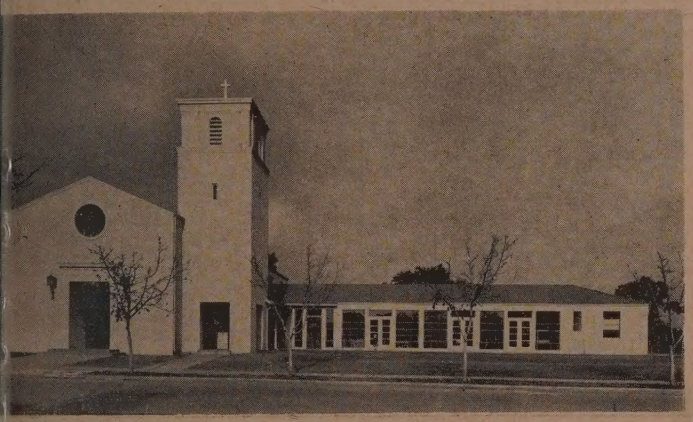
The Pacific

n Year (First Issue Aug. 1, 1851) DECEMBER, 1949 No. 10



New San Carlos Church building dedicated October 16

EW BUILDINGS

The Northern California Congre- ional Conference is breaking out in rash" of new buildings. There are y good reasons why this is happen- now. Some of our old churches ve served their day and need to be laced; others find that their plant inadequate or poorly located to ve a changing community. And n there are those brand new rches which are beginnig to show in our Conference as a part of extension program. All of this is up to progress, which is in line h the rapid growth of population California.

Here is a survey of what is happen- right under our noses. San Carlos dicated their lovely new sanctuary d Sunday School rooms on October . This is an impressive structure d now looms up as one of the finest Northern California. Here is one our younger churches which started 1928. On December 18 the beau- ul mission style building of First urch, Fresno, will be dedicated, at de and Van Ness Avenues. This is ore than a mile from the old down- wn location and is the third struc- re in Fresno, where the Congrega- onalists started to work in 1883. nen we swing around to Hayward, ere you blink and look twice if you member the little New England apel that housed the congregation r decades. It has been moved to a w location on Bridge Street, but ow it is dwarfed by an immense ilding, which makes you gasp. This pressive plant will be dedicated at special service on December 18.

But that isn't all of this story of rogress. Up at Weaverville they are utting the finishing touches on a new cial hall, which they hope will be ady by Christmas. Out in Orinda ey will begin construction on the ird wing of their building soon after e beginning of the new year. Ocean iew in San Francisco is ready to start onstruction at their new location in Merced Heights as soon as the Church uilding Society gives their plans the . K. St. John's United Church Congregational and E. & R.) has s preliminary drawings for its first nit in Forest Hill, San Francisco. The new parsonage at Modesto is lmost ready for occupancy, and this vill be one of the show places of the Conference for a long time. At Santa Rosa they have purchased a new site and a building committee is already at work. In Eureka a special committee is studying the possibility of moving out into the suburbs, since their present structure is 60 years old and in need of extensive repairs. At San Jose they are contemplating the purchase of three new sites in various parts of that growing city, the idea being that some day the old building downtown will be razed. Redwood City has been granted a new allocation in the southwest portion of town, and a move will be made when the population growth justifies it.

There you have it. Congregationalism in Northern California is awake, and we are getting ready for the ten million increase in population which is predicted in the next 25 years for our state. Other churches will be joining the parade of progress in 1950, and perhaps yours will be among them.

MESSAGE FROM THE MODERATOR

With a century behind us, Congregationalism in Northern California now begins its second hundred years. They say that the first hundred years are the hardest. For churcehs in California that has doubtless been true so far as the conditions of physical existence are concerned. Through the centennial year we have been reminded both of the difficult beginnings in pioneer times and of the vision and ruggedness of early leadership.

But the task was relatively simple in those early days. Christian leaders knew what they wanted to do even though it was often difficult to do it. But for the next stage now beginning the hardship, if one can call it that, lies in understanding our time and just what it is the churches ought to do. How are we to deal with a fast moving, secularized population that is piling up in all our communities at a dizzying rate? How are we both to keep the Christian message true to its central meaning and yet adjust to new ideas and forces in society? How are we going to assume real moral leadership in a state which is no longer pioneer territory but one of the centers of population, wealth, and industry? On the Atlantic seaboard the Church grew gradually with the population and was from the beginning recognized, and its message heard. Here on the Pacific coast the Church has still to win and exercise such influence.

We need a new kind of "high potential" church in every community, that is, a church with a strong clear grasp of the fundamental Christian faith and with an effective way of making that faith available to the inner personal needs of men in a time of spiritual tensions. A church, also, that is awake to the social forces and agencies for good and evil in the community and that is prepared to deal with those forces and agencies in terms of the Christian ideal of community.

Let us go on, then, to complete our Centennial program of fostering new churches; it is a program that ought to continue for many years. Let us also look deep into the reality of the Christian Gospel and with the help of God bring forth treasures of meaning and power adequate to the need of the new century.

—Hugh Vernon White.

A Christmas Story

Will you believe me if I say that three of the happiest Christmas days of my life were in a concentration camp in the Philippines?

The Japanese guards granted us special privileges for the day. They let us go outside the camp area to get Christmas trees. They permitted us to take the day off from our regular camp work. They brought gifts and candy for the children. They gathered round the community Christmas tree and joined in the fun. Some of them attended our worship service.

It was at the Christmas pageant that something unusual occurred. Standing at the back of the audience, two or three Japanese guards removed their hats from their heads. One of them said to us, "I know that I may be punished for removing my hat while I am on duty. I am not a Christian, but I know your Christmas story, and whenever I see it portrayed in this pageant I take off my hat."

—Paul Collyer, "Missions," Dec., 1945

1950 COUNCIL MEETING

The annual meeting of the Northern California-Western Nevada Council of Churches will be held on January 20 at the Scottish Rite Temple in Oakland. Dinner will be served at 6:45 p. m., and tickets are available through the Northern California-Western Nevada Council office. Music will be provided by the Salvation Army band, and the main address will be given by Dr. Georgia Harkness.

PLEASANT HILL

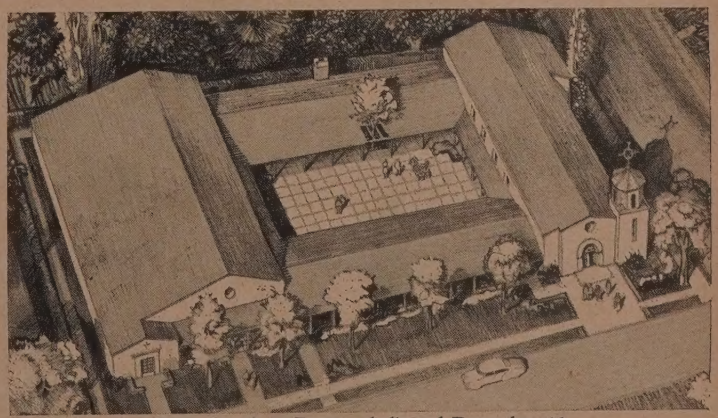
One of the fastest growing areas in the Bay region is in the broad and level valley which stretches from the base of Mt. Diablo north toward the shores of Suisun Bay. Here our newest Church Extension project is under way with the purchase of a large piece of property near the Hookston monument, where the highway north from Walnut Creek divides to go to Concord and Martinez. The property is at the corner of Gregory Lane and Kahrs Street, west of the monument, and measures 492 by 145 feet. Preliminary ground plans show that there is room enough on these lots for a church, social hall, Sunday School buildings, parsonage, and parking space for 100 autos. The Conference staff is now looking for a minister to begin work on this project in 1950, and the first unit to go up will probably be a parsonage.

The central area of Contra Costa County is growing at the rate of 10,000 people per year. The new Gregory Gardens housing project with 250 homes is complete, and the second unit is now under construction. This area is close to the church site. Within the one mile radius of our property the Hook Estate of 67 acres will be the next development with 340 homes. The Congregational Church will stand on a gentle rise on Gregory Lane, which will make the building visible from the entire region on the flats below it. We urge our church people to drive out and take a look at this splendid property.

Schweitzer Speaks

"If the Church is to accomplish its task it must unite men in elementary, thoughtful, ethical religiousness. This it has hitherto done very imperfectly. How far it is from being what it ought to be was revealed by its absolute failure in the war. There devolved on it the duty of summoning men out of the struggle of national passions to reflection, and in keeping them in the spirit and temper of the highest ideals. It was not able to do this, and indeed did not seriously make the attempt. Only too completely historical and too well organized, and too little a directly religious association, it succumbed to the spirit of the time and mixed up with religion the dogmas of Nationalism and pragmatism."

—Albert Schweitzer, "The Philosophy of Civilization."



New church at Fresno, dedicated December 18

The Pacific

Established 1851
Entered as Second Class Matter at the San Francisco Post Office

Subscriptions, 25 cents in advance

Published monthly (except July and August) by the Northern California Congregational Conference, 1164 Phelan Building, 760 Market Street, San Francisco 2, California.

Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided in Section 1103, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized September 11, 1937.

Address all communications and checks to THE PACIFIC, 1164 Phelan Building, San Francisco 2.

Rev. Sidney F. Buckham, Editor This Issue

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CENTENNIAL IN 1950

Plans are being made for the continuation of the Centennial Campaign in 1950. As we approach the halfway mark in our drive for $100,000 here are some of the things we plan to do to complete the drive for the coming year, as outlined by Chairman Albert J. Watson:

1. Mite boxes (in the form of a miniature church) will be distributed among the 13,000 Sunday School children of our Congregational churches during January, to be called in by the first of March, so that the youngsters will have an opportunity to share in the Centennial.

2. The local Women's Society of every church in the Conference is being asked to take out a "Century Club" membership of $100 during the year 1950, or to contribute as much as they can as a group.

3. Pilgrim Fellowship groups in local churches are being asked to include the Centennial in a special gift to be made in 1950. Some of the larger P. F. groups will subscribe to the "Century Club."

4. A church-by-church visitation is being conducted by the Centennial Executive Committee and staff members among the churches which failed to observe the Centennial in 1949 and the churches which gave small amounts during the past year.

5. Superintendent Harley H. Gill is now "on the road" soliciting large gifts and will continue this visitation during the whole month of December.

6. Visual aids and personal solicitation of small gifts will be continued through the year 1950 by William W. Meyer and Sidney H. Buckham.

Albert Watson reports that in every church where the minister and his Centennial committee were on the job in 1949 the results have been gratifying, but there are still 45% of our churches that have not responded to the Centennial appeal. If your church is one of these, please see that action is taken in 1950.

SUNOL—A Pastor's Bible Class meets on Sundays at 10 a. m., led by Rev. Robert B. Whitaker. At a congregational meeting on November 27 it was voted to paint the church building. Twenty new members have declared their intention of joining the church.

ONE MONTH TO GO FOR 1949

	App't Jan. 11 to Nov. 30,'48	App't Jan. 11 to Nov. 30,'49
Alameda	$1,244.57	$1,121.46
Alturas	180.13	138.69
Angels Camp	100.00	434.43
Antioch	223.83	119.74
Auburn	228.75	267.16
Benicia	52.00	15.50
Berkeley, Arlington	169.22	437.11
Chinese	——	25.00
First	8,284.44	9,344.86
North	907.00	1,255.98
Northbrae	——	276.17
So. Community	466.18	835.24
Biola	——	47.68
Campbell	644.06	428.55
Cedarville	49.75	77.93
Cloverdale	193.05	121.10
Cotati	83.75	64.50
Crockett	82.74	81.53
Dinuba	.66	2.00
Eagleville	——	7.36
Elk Grove	14.25	33.64
Etna	29.67	60.36
Eureka	573.49	1,142.54
Fairfax	163.10	175.00
Ferndale	271.81	342.76
Fowler	75.00	125.00
Fresno, First	1,100.00	3,215.70
Japanese	25.00	——
Pilgrim Arm'n	500.00	——
Zion	41.14	66.08
Glen Ellen	90.00	34.23
Guerneville	25.00	235.90
Hayward	100.00	1,773.90
Kenwood	51.88	89.03
Likely	——	7.13
Lodi, Ebenezer	——	299.30
First	2,346.00	3,008.07
Loleta	7.00	33.46
Loomis	200.00	100.00
Martinez	933.26	1,326.13
Modesto	——	70.18
Murphys	100.00	——
Niles	50.00	123.50
Oakland, Beth. Arm'n	——	71.57
First	4,840.00	5,569.54
Fruitvale	72.40	67.41
Japanese	80.00	30.00
New Pilgrim	76.00	98.96
Plymouth	1,331.03	2,263.42
Orinda	685.25	1,415.18
Oroville	790.87	188.96
Pacific Grove	225.00	143.26
Palo Alto	1,474.00	3,068.13
Paradise	550.00	641.50
Parlier	20.00	10.00
Penngrove	47.73	59.16
Pescadero	10.00	23.86
Petaluma	660.00	1,055.00
Pittsburg	248.02	333.02
Port Chicago	142.04	61.10
Porterville	1,400.00	2,104.00
Redwood City	1,006.54	541.84
Reedley	15.00	21.28
Rio Vista	100.00	85.00
Ripon	339.81	319.44
Sacramento, Pioneer	1,490.00	2,437.00
Sierra Arden	191.48	311.33
Salida	170.95	68.18
San Carlos	725.00	1,060.00
San Francisco,		
Beth. Miss. Pk	175.75	142.20
Calvary Arm'n	30.00	30.00
First	279.65	2,341.96
Ocean View	100.00	150.00
Park Presidio	342.42	632.64
Sanger	——	245.57
San Jose	1,187.00	1,716.89
San Leandro	110.13	249.41
San Lorenzo	——	65.75
San Mateo	1,250.00	3,100.00
San Rafael	35.00	54.70
Santa Cruz	264.00	1,515.32
Santa Rosa	78.00	400.00
Saratoga	378.91	273.34
Sebastopol	467.86	380.69
Sonoma	221.23	74.17
Soquel	158.10	92.95
Stockton	1,046.12	1,796.15
Suisun	87.50	107.50
Sunnyvale	95.34	241.47
Sunol	——	23.92
Tulare	1,794.00	1,675.00
Weaverville	77.34	110.00
Woodside	11.50	29.00
Reno, Nevada	801.68	719.62
Miscellaneous	2,078.53	1,755.35
	$47,327.91	$67,335.64

NEW OFFICE SECRETARY

Miss Pauline Louie, a member of our Chinese Congregational Church of San Francisco, began her work as secretary in the Conference office on November 16. Miss Louie is taking the place of Miss Alice Chakmakjian, who is now Mrs. James R. Kaprielian of Fresno. An informal surprise party was staged for Alice at the meeting of the Board of Directors of the Conference on November 15. Coffee and cake were served to all those present, and a gift from the Conference was presented to Alice with a letter of congratulations and best wishes.

Modesto Covenant

Witnessing in our day the longing of the world for peace, the striving of humanity for freedom, and the searching of men for a living faith, we acknowledge that all men are equally the children of God, and strive, through the ministry of reconciliation, to unite all creeds, classes, nations, and races into one fellowship.

We recognize the supremacy of God, and uphold the freedom of conscience for all seekers of truth. We renounce all that cheapens human personality, and in all our actions, we seek to be guided by the spirit of love.

We believe that Jesus was obedient to the spirit of God, and taught that all men could likewise live in close relationship with God.

We now join hands and hearts with the members of this church and of the church universal, in these, our common beliefs and purposes. Amen.

Words of Wisdom

"History has always recorded that social institutions which perished in the past have fallen primarily because of their weakened resistance from within, not primarily because of the strength of the opposing forces without. And similarly, history has recorded many instances when small David nations successfully defied large Goliath nations, primarily because they were wholeheartedly sure of their righteous cause. And I am assured in my own mind that this democratic civilization of ours will never be defeated by outside foes—UNLESS our inner strength is sabotaged by a breakdown of our moral and spiritual soundness and stability."

—Williston Wirt.

LAYMAN IN SPOTLIGHT

We introduce to you Ralph H. Anderson of Hayward, the Moderator who handled the annual meeting of the Conference in San Francisco like a seasoned quarterback. Ralph did such a good job that he was unanimously elected chairman of the Conference Board of Directors, and "jumped from the frying pan into the fire."

Ralph Anderson is a "Yankee," born in Boston, and graduating from Harvard in 1914, cum laude and a Phi Beta Kappa. He used to be a conservative Baptist and threw the church overboard during his college days, as many a thinking young man does. He moved to California in 1919 to join an accounting firm in San Francisco. When he became comptroller of Mills College in 1925, Ralph and his family moved to Piedmont and in 1933 he was so attracted by the preaching of Dr. O. W. S. McCall that he joined First Church, Berkeley. From that time on his interest in the church has increased. In 1942 Ralph moved to Hayward, and transferred his letter to that church, where he has served as Sunday School teacher, treasurer, and choir member. He now has his own successful accounting firm in Hayward, and is one of Dick Norberg's right hand men in the church.

Ralph Anderson became interested in our Conference program through the Laymen's Fellowship (Oh, happy day), of which he is secretary-treasurer. He is a member of the Centennial Executive Committee, and we think that he is "exhibit A" of what a layman ought to be—active in his local church, and 100% for the united program of the denomination, state and national.

Midwinter Confab Pilgrim Fellowship

Tuesday, December 27

2:00 p. m.—Registration.
4:00—Recreation.
4:45—Group meetings.
5:10—Orientation.
6:00—Dinner.
7:30—Worship Service.
Address: "Enlist Now for Peace," Rev. Robert W. Moon.
8:30—Recreation.
9:50—Friendship Circle.

Wednesday, December 28

9:00 a. m.—Worship Service.
Address: "Enlist Now for Fellowship," Dr. Ronald Bridges.
10:00—Discussion groups.
11:10—"Cabinet vs. Chaos," presented by Mill Valley P. F. and the State Cabinet.
12:00—Luncheon.
Movie: "Answer for Ann"
2:00—Recreation.
5:00—Slides on Foreign Fruit Project
5:30—Vesper Service.
6:00—Dinner (banquet).
Address: "Enlist Now for the Next 100 Years," Rev. William E. McCormack.
8:00—Party.
Theme: "49er Daze"

Thursday, December 29

9:00—Morning Session.
Worship Service.
Address: "Enlist Now for Action," Dr. Ronald Bridges.
10:00—Discussion groups.
10:50—Apple Time.
11:00—Northern California Pilgrim Fellowship in Action.
12:00—Luncheon.
Movie: "Kyoto Story"
2:00—Trip to Treasure Island, Lake Merritt, and Oakland Museum.
5:00—Slides on Cazadero.
5:30—Vesper Service.
6:00—Dinner.
"Cazadero, Here We Come"
8:00—"Enlist Now for Christ," Dr. Ronald Bridges.
Communion Service.

Friday, December 30

9:00—Closing Session.
Summary of Conference.
Closing Worship.
9:30—Friendship Circle.
9:45—Goodbye, Pilgrims.

OCEAN VIEW CHURCH '49ER BAZAAR

A bazaar was held at the Ocean View Church on November 4 and 5. The buildings were crowded both afternoons and evenings. The eleven booths were in the form of a street in a Gold Rush town of 1849. It included a community church, community schoolhouse, trading post, pony parcel post office, and also a cafe. Over 300 were served dinner and also tea on Friday. Colored movies were shown in the church so as to relieve the traffic. Folk dancing was also included in the entertainment. Over $1,400 will be clear profit after all expenses are paid.

The Organ Fund is now finished, and the balance will be added to the Building Fund. This is now about $2,000 in cash and with another $10,000 in pledges.

The men of the church erected all the scenery, including two large pictures, one a mountain scene and the other of San Francisco in 1848.

The bazaar has shown us that the community is interested and ready to go forward. Nothing like this has ever happened to this church in past history. We are now dealing with a larger-city church outlook.

—Joseph H. Bennett

MINISTERS AND CHURCHES ON THE JOB

AN LORENZO — The Sunday ool of this church has a staff of eachers. A teacher training course onducted twice a year by profes- al teachers and administrators of public school. The goal of the ch is to have 106 teachers by fall. An audience of 250 was ent at the "Nite of Music" on the ning of November 27. An old ioned Christmas party, in costume, held on December 13. Laymen the church continue working in s to complete the building.

ERKELEY, FIRST—The 75th an- rsary of this church was celebrated December first. A parish dinner held, followed by a program of ic by the Chancel Choir and a rt original drama. This church was anized in 1874 by Dr. William Warren with a handful of church nbers, and is now one of the ngest churches of our Conference.

ALAMEDA — A splendid Centen- program was carried on in this rch through the month of October n visual aids, sermons, and special s. This was the most complete ntennial program in any church of Conference. Rev. Ralph Conard he minister.

BERKELEY, NORTH—The land- ping of the grounds around the rch and Fellowship Center is now ler way, with the assistance of the keley superintendent of parks. Rev. ney H. Buckham was elected presi- t of the Men's Club for the year 50.

CLOVERDALE — Mr. Samuel A. right, Jr., has been called to the st Unitarian Church of Stockton, d Rev. Charles S. Mundell of the wndale Community Church in uthern California has been called serve the Cloverdale church for ee months.

SANTA CRUZ—A series of Sun- y evening programs has been started this church under the title of Widening Horizons." The Sundays December will be devoted to ristmas programs, featuring music. uring January the program will in- ude book reviews, personality sketch- , forums, and musicales.

PESCADERO—The Women's So- ty held a bazaar on December third. his church has not had a canvass r several years, but one is being ld this month with a budget of ,300 for 1950. A Christmas party ill be held on December 20. Mr. onald O. Smith of Pacific School of eligion is part-time minister.

PETALUMA — Dr. Raymond B. rukker of Berea College preached n November 13. A potluck dinner d church meeting was held on No- mber 16, with kodachromes shown y Mr. John Olmsted. A Wednesday orning prayer meeting is held every eek in the pastor's study by the Mayflower Circle.

REDWOOD CITY—The remodel- ng of this church is under way and ill be completed in the near future. World-Wide Communion Day was bserved on November 4 with a united ervice. Twenty-two members of this hurch attended sessions of the annual eeting of the State Conference in an Francisco.

SAN FRANCISCO, CHINESE— Mr. and Mrs. David Colburn of Pacific chool of Religion are working in the unday School and with the young eople of the church. The annual Thanksgiving dinner was held on December 4. Rev. B. Y. Leong is he pastor of this church.

SAN FRANCISCO, FIRST — A service of recognition for Dr. William W. McCormack will be held on Sunday evening, December 18. Taking part in the service will be Rev. Harley H. Gill, Rev. Vere V. Loper, Rev. Hugh Vernon White, Rev. Truman B. Douglass, Rev. Joseph H. Bennett, and Rev. William R. McCormack, father of the minister. An informal public reception will be held following the service. A committee is at work studying possible changes in the constitution.

MODESTO—The new Tulley Elementary School next to the Modesto church property was dedicated recently. A special Charter Member service was held on November 6, and the church covenant was signed by 16 new members. It is hoped that this membership will reach 100 by next Easter, following the personal evangelism campaign to be conducted by Rev. Ira Black in March.

BERKELEY, CHINESE—Dr. Hoh Yam-tong, pastor of this church, and Miss Li Chia-tah were married by Superintendent Gill at North Congregational Church, Berkeley, on Thanksgiving Day. Dr. Hoh has a Ph. D. degree from Columbia. Mrs. Hoh is a graduate of Mills College and has been studying at Berkeley Baptist Divinity School. Dr. Hoh was an active member of the United Church of Christ in China for many years.

BENICIA — This church has just purchased an addressing machine. Laymen participate in the morning services every Sunday by reading the scripture lesson. Centennial Sunday was observed in October, and the Every Member Canvass was held on November 13. Mr. C. T. Gustafson is the new pastor of this church.

NILES—Rev. Alfred Paul Focht began as minister of this church on November 6. He comes to our Conference from the Forest Glen Congregational Church of Chicago. Mr. Focht is a graduate of Pacific School of Religion, class of 1943. He is a native Californian and comes from Sebastopol.

ANTIOCH—The reconstruction of the chancel of this church is now under way, with 100 man hours of contributed labor. Missionary giving has been increased by 300 per cent for 1950 and the total budget of the church by 65 per cent. Rev. Herbert Dimock became pastor last summer.

SUISUN—Mr. Donald Cassiday has started his second year as minister of this church. Under his leadership, Pilgrim Fellowship and Young Adult groups have been organized. Visual aids are being used in the program of the church, and the Primary room has been redecorated.

FRESNO, FIRST — On Sunday, November 20, seventy-nine new members joined this church. The new building will be dedicated on December 18. Superintendent Harley H. Gill will participate in the dedication service.

ANGELS CAMP — Rev. Lawrence Granger announces the organization of a Men's Breakfast Club which meets monthly at the Bazinette Hotel. The budget for the church has been increased by $1,000 for 1950. Plans are being drawn up for an additional unit on Friendship Hall, with kitchen, parlor, storage room, and rest rooms.

SEBASTOPOL—The Every Member Canvass was held on November 6 with an increase of $2,000 over the past year. Rev. Raymond Keeble is the minister.

LODI, FIRST—The Girl Scouts of this area and their leaders were guests at the morning service recently. Rev. and Mrs. A. R. Bone are conducting a series of six Wednesday evening devotional Bible study hours on "The Inner Quest." Mr. Nathan L. White, resident F. B. I. agent at Stockton, spoke at the church family dinner on the subject, "Your F. B. I." Twenty-three of the choir members sang at the fall music festival and a number sang in the community choir at the Thanksgiving service.

SAN FRANCISCO, PARK PRESIDIO—A series of Sunday evening fellowship programs began on November 13. The program begins with a "snack supper" at 6:00 p. m., followed by a song service at the tables and a service of worship in the sanctuary. Twenty-four new members were received into the fellowship of the church on October 30. Rev. Robert Moon is the pastor.

EUREKA — The 90th anniversary of the founding of this church was observed on October 30. A large congregation gathered for the special service, which was conducted by Rev. James P. Senter, the pastor. Music was provided by the combined junior and adult choirs. This is one of the oldest churches in the Conference, and the small original building stood on the main street before a back-drop of giant redwoods.

SACRAMENTO, PIONEER—New memorial windows were dedicated on November 27. These were given to the church by Mrs. Velma Monson in memory of her mother, Mrs. Emma R. Haddick.

BERKELEY, SOUTH COMMUNITY—Rev. Edward L. Whittemore, executive secretary of the Berkeley-Albany Church Federation, was a recent guest preacher in this church. Attorney Leland S. Hawkins led a discussion on "The Negro and Tomorrow" at the Men's Club in November. The topic "The Liquor Ban and the University Student" was discussed in a recent meeting of the college-age group.

ORINDA — The church grounds are being improved under the direction of landscape architects Litton & Whitney. This work includes drainage pipes, grading of the entire church lot, construction of a paved roadway and additional parking, and the laying of a concrete sidewalk from the road to the church buildings. Shrubs and trees will be planted.

OAKLAND, PLYMOUTH — The Rev. Philip G. Murray has been called as pastor of this church and will begin his services on January first. Mr. Murray is a graduate of Bucknell University and Union Theological Seminary. His present pastorate is at Winona, Minnesota. He served as a chaplain in the U. S. Navy for three years.

PORT CHICAGO — The financial canvass for 1950 was completed on November 20, under the leadership of Rev. Gifford M. Webster. Mr. Harold Malone has begun his ministry there. He is a student at the Pacific School of Religion.

BERKELEY, ARLINGTON — A holiday bazaar was held on December 2, with a variety show by the PTA and Dad's Club in the evening.

Congregation and choir following the 90th anniversary service at the First Congregational Church, Eureka, October 30, 1949

WOMEN'S FEDERATION NEWS

Miss Mary Coxhead, Correspondent

The Annual Meeting of the Federation will be held at First Congregational Church, Berkeley, January 19.

The November meeting of the Federation was called to order by Mrs. Ernest A. Evans, second vice-president, in the absence of Mrs. Kientz, who was attending a meeting of women of the Congregational Christian Churches and the Evangelical and Reformed Church in Cleveland.

First on the program was the reading of the proposed changes in the constitution by Mrs. James H. Price, these changes to be voted on at the annual meeting in January. The proposed changes are in reference to meetings of the Federation, which will then be as follows:

January: regular meeting, third Thursday.

February: winter rallies (not in 1950, which will be a regular meeting as in the present constitution).

March: regular meeting, third Thursday.

April: Annual Meeting, election of officers, beginnig in 1951.

May: State Conference annual meeting.

August: regular meeting, third Thursday.

October: fall meeting, like present spring meeting; Conference Association meetings.

November: regular meeting, third Thursday.

The reason for these changes is to fit the Federation work into the new Conference year which was voted by the last State Conference meeting.

Mrs. H. O. Hassler, who gave her final report as Christian Home Secretary, suggested as good reading Margaret Bro's book, "When Children Ask," and the magazine, "The Christian Home," which is published monthly and can be ordered from the Methodist Publishing House in San Francisco at $2.00 a year. In saying "goodbye" Mrs. Hassler said, "The only way the church outreaches is through its children. . . . Go home and look at your Sunday School rooms. Are they adequate and attractive? Is there anything better you can do for God than help create a greater generation of Christians?" Mrs. Hassler has decided to concentrate her efforts in her own Sunday School at Hayward.

Mrs. Gail Cleland, Literature Secretary, reviewed two books which she highly recommended: "The Long Love" by John Sedges, which is a story about a courtship and constantly maturing marriage, and the other: "The Mature Mind" by Harry A. Overstreet, which is both easy to read and stimulating.

Mrs. Scott Haymond suggested that the Thank Offering Secretary (herself) be invited to speak to groups early in the year so that all women's groups may know what they are working for, with a reminder that Thank Offering checks be sent to the Conference office.

Mrs. C. R. Claiborne, Interdenominational Secretary, was absent, but in her place Mrs. Walker reported that World Community Day was celebrated with wonderful results and many "Parcels for Peace" were dedicated. Eight Missions Institutes were held with over 1000 women attending.

Mrs. Lewis W. Taylor, Foreign Field Secretary, in a short dialogue invited the women to meet a number of Japanese Christians, among them Dr. Hachiro Yuasa, Christian educator and scientist, who has been chosen president of the new Japan International Christian University. She also told of the people of Hiroshima who are making their city an "exhibition for peace."

A guest of the morning session was Major A. J. Watson, chairman of the state Centennial Committee, who told the women that many of the churches have not supported the Centennial Fund. He urged that all do their share in adding to the fund to provide new churches in newly populated parts of the state and making Cazadero more adequate for the needs of the young people. He urged that each women's group become a member of the Century Club. A special message from the Board was to the effect that this matter is so vital that it recommends that each group take action to join the Century Club immediately.

There was good news. Mrs. Harley H. Gill is making good recovery from her illness, and a request that those who should contribute to the scrapbook send in their material as soon as possible. Mrs. Gill is responsible for making up the scrapbook this year, but due to her illness has not been able to ask for help in this project.

Miss Edith F. Parsons concluded the morning session by carrying us into the real mood of worship in her devotional. Instead of Thanksgiving being a list of blessings, she suggested that God be glorified for Himself. She suggested Psalms and two books by John Hayland, "Sacraments of the Common Life" and "Fourfold Sacraments." "Rest your soul in the greatness and goodness of God."

Mrs. William W. Meyer reported that the Family Camps have the following recommendations: (1) that parent education classes be arranged to meet during Sunday School; (2) that every means be used to get all parents into the church; (3) that church members provide free baby-sitting so that parents can get to church and the couples' club; (4) that an effort be made to get parents and teen-agers together; (5) that efforts be made to get families to Family Camp; (6) that family fun nights be planned.

Important Dates to Remember

January 20—Annual meeting of Council of Church Women.

January 20 (evening) — Northern California-Western Nevada Council of Churches.

January 20-21—Christian Cavalcade

January 20—Youth Council.

Helps for study of Japan were listed as follows, and may be ordered from the American Board, 14 Beacon St., Boston 8, Mass.: (1) Films: **Kyoto Story** (color, sound, $5 rental or an offering); **Kenji Comes Home** (black and white, sound, $10 rental). (2) Pictures on many phases of Japanese life. (3) Letters from missionaries. (4) Brochures: Envelope Series, fall, 1949, 10c; Today in Japan, 25c. (5) Japan table mats, 1c each (maps). (6) Letter of the Month, 50c a year.

Dr. Vere V. Loper was the principal speaker of the day, giving a frank and kindly review of Protestant and Catholic attitudes on the question of public support of public and private schools. He said that 55% of Catholic children are in the public schools, showing that many Catholics believe in public education. The Protestant churches, through the Federal Council, have recently formulated a policy on auxiliary services for children. The public school is basic to the welfare of the country, the church, and democracy.

Mira Vista Progress

Mira Vista is that section at the north end of El Cerrito on the hillside overlooking the city of Richmond, and a large number of Mira Vista residents find their places of employment in that growing city. Yet the city of El Cerrito is also growing rapidly and offering an additional amount of employment opportunities. The east shore boulevard offers excellent access to the other cities of the San Francisco Bay region.

The first phase of any new work must be calling at the homes of the area and promoting interest in the new venture. This has been done. And the first tangible result was in the form of a neighborhood meeting at one of the homes, which became very encouraging as the story of the new adventure was told. That was on the 26th of October, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John K. Foote. A second meeting was held a few days later at the home of Mrs. Georgiana Sandvick, and a similar response was evidenced.

The second meeting brought forth our need for a Sunday School at an early date, and accordingly, on November 13, the first class was held in the Sandvick home, with six children of kindergarten age and four teachers and helpers. The following Sunday saw ten children and seven adults.

Two of those adults, who had been in attendance as observers, formed a second class on November 27, this time for children of primary age, and in the home of Mr. and Mrs. George Spalteholz. A third class designed for lower junior age is now in the planning stage and probably will be under way before the Christmas holidays.

As soon as the parsonage is ready for occupancy there will be two additional groups, one being a nursery and the other being an adult forum. With all of these groups meeting at the same time in four different neighborhoods, it is not difficult to see the problems of administration and procedure. But the spirit of enthusiasm for this new adventure in Christian faith is both heart-warming and encouraging.

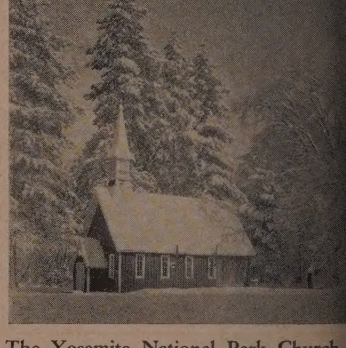
—Gifford M. Webster.

How Comity Works

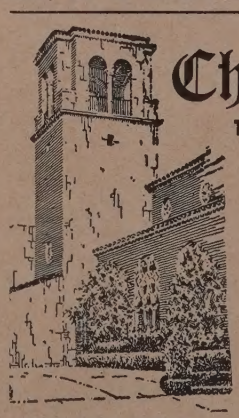
Ministers and laymen are continually asking about the workings of the Comity Commission of Northern California. This organization came into being in 1945, and its membership consists of the superintendents of the eleven cooperating denominations, executives of mission boards of the same, and all full-time executives of city and area church councils. Meetings are held on the first Friday of every month in San Francisco, and attendance varies betweent 20 and 30.

Requests for allocations for new work or for the changing of the locations of established churches are brought to the Comity Commission by the members. They are referred to a sub-committee on "new work," which also meets every month, for careful study. Each application must be filled out on a regular form and accompanied by a marked map. After an allocation has been studied and approved by the New Work Committee it is sent on to the Comity Commission, where it is held pending for 30 days. If there are objections to the allocation requested, they are aired at the Comity Commission meeting, and approval may be granted or withheld by this body. If there is doubt about a certain decision a special committee is appointed to consult with the superintendents involved, and to report back to the Commission. Voting is decisive by a simple majority of those present.

The Comity Commission granted 152 allocations from 1945 to 1948, inclusive. Thirteen of these were assigned to the Congregational denomination. The statement of purpose given in the constitution is as follows: "It is the purpose of this organization by conference and advice to aid in the distribution of the churches and similar institutions over the area covered by the Northern California-Western Nevada Council of Churches in such a way that each shall have a reasonable opportunity for growth and development, and that no community shall be over-churched and none left without adequate church facilities."



The Yosemite National Park Church, in which our Conference shares in the annual budget. Rev. Alfred Glass is the minister.



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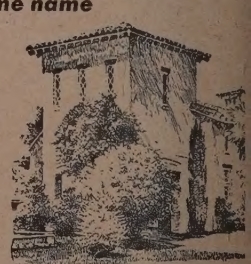

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